

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 064496
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DRAFTED BY EA:RHOLBROOKE:CB
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EA ONLY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 064496

FOR NEWSOM ONLY FROM HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: RP, PINR

SUBJECT: FAREWELL CALLS

REF: MANILA 3952

1. IN CONSIDERATION OF YOUR MESSAGE ABOUT YOUR FAREWELL CALLS I WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THAT THESE CALLS PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO CLARIFY CERTAIN POINTS WHICH ARE RECURRING IN MANY INTELLIGENCE REPORTS. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE OF YOUR CALLS ON MRS. MARCOS, ENRILE, AND ROMULO.

2. IT IS MY VIEW THAT IF YOU WERE SIMPLY TO FOLLOW THE COURSE OUTLINED IN YOUR PARA 4, AND LEAVE IMELDA "IN A FRIENDLY MOOD", IT WOULD NOT SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE HER DEEP SUSPICIONS OF THE USG AT THIS TIME. ACCORDINGLY, I STILL BELIEVE THAT, GIVEN HER PERSONALITY AND STYLE, YOU SHOULD USE YOUR DISCUSSION WITH HER TO GO SUBSTANTIALLY BEYOND

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PLEASANTRIES. SHE WILL ENJOY AND PREFER A FRANK TALK TO ONE WHICH CAREFULLY--TOO CAREFULLY PERHAPS--SKIRTS THE ISSUES WHICH ARE ON HER MIND. AVOIDING THEM WOULD ONLY TEND TO INCREASE HER SUSPICIONS.

3. MAY I THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT IN EACH OF YOUR FINAL DISCUSSIONS WITH ENRILE, IMELDA, AND ROMOLO, YOU RAISE SOME

OF THE MORE OUTRAGEOUS CHARGES LEVIED RECENTLY, AND USING THEM AS A PEG, DIRECTLY REBUT THEM. THIS CAN BE DONE WITH NO PERSONAL OR DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE PERSON WITH WHOM YOU ARE TALKING. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU COULD SAY TO MRS. MARCOS THAT YOU HAVE HEARD "SOME PEOPLE CHARGE" THAT THE CIA IS SUPPORTING MARCOS' OPPONENTS. YOU COULD ADD THAT YOU WOULD NOT WISH TO LEAVE MANILA WITHOUT HAVING TOLD HER PERSONALLY THAT YOU CONSIDER THAT SUCH COMMENTS CAN ONLY HARM THE CAUSE OF GOOD U.S.-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS.

4. I ALSO THINK THAT WE MUST DO MORE THAN SIMPLY PROVIDE ENRILE AND ROMULO WITH COPIES OF WHATEVER WE GIVE TO MARCOS ON COMPENSATION. THESE TWO MEN ARE FOR VARIOUS REASONS BOTH LIKELY TO TELL MARCOS TO RAISE THE ANTE, AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WHEN YOU SEE THEM, IN ADDITION TO REBUTTING THE CHARGES OF CIA SUPPORT ET AL, THAT YOU GO TO SUBSTANTIAL LENGTHS TO MAKE THEM FEEL THAT WE WISH TO DEAL NOT ONLY WITH MARCOS BUT ALSO WITH BOTH OF THEM AS INVOLVED EXPERIENCED OFFICIALS FOR WHOM WE HAVE GREAT RESPECT. WE SHOULD TRY TO LEAVE BOTH MEN WITH THE FEELING THAT WE HOPE THEY WILL USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO HELP BRING ABOUT AN AGREEMENT AND THAT WE WOULD HOLD THEM AS BEING INVOLVED IN ANY BREAKDOWN OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH HAVE MADE SUCH VAST PROGRESS. THIS MAY BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT WITH REGARD TO THE WATERS AT SUBIC.

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